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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
CHINA

IPF:(1987-91) $189 499 000

(CPR/91/141) - Capacity Building and Investment Preparation for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation in Poor and Remote Areas

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	14 August 1991
Expected duration:	Two years
Proposed executing agency:	Government (China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE) in co-operation with International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
Government implementing agency:	National Patriotic Health Campaign Committee (NPHCC)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 186 000 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$1 186 000

Project background

The water supply and sanitation conditions of China's 870 million rural inhabitants have improved markedly in the last few decades. Nevertheless, about 30 per cent of the rural population (approximately 260 million) still contends with one or more critical water supply deficiencies. The conditions tend to be the worst in the poorer and more remote areas.

Current efforts to expand rural water supply have generally focussed on the construction of piped systems of conventional design. While this approach can solve water supply problems in most urban and better-off villages, it is frequently not the optimal solution due to high capital and operating costs. Conventional piped systems are clearly unaffordable for poor and remote villages and unsuitable for dispersed populations. Local engineers generally lack familiarity with other feasible systems such as handpumps, gravity-flow and rain catchment systems as well as with new and improved low-cost sanitation systems.

Skills to evaluate, select and implement systems appropriate to a variety of local conditions need substantial strengthening including community mobilization and training, management, operations and maintenance. Wells equipped with handpumps offer a solution which is suitable for widespread application, affordable and reliable. Handpumps are usually procured locally, but experience has shown that the design and quality are often

[1/] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

low standards required. Drilling technologies and equipment suited to wells fitted with ndpumps, known in some regions, need to be introduced in the project area with emphasis efficient utilization and maintenance. The potential for using alternative low-cost ter supply systems need to be investigated. A large proportion of the rural population served by some type of latrine but their design and the method of night soil disposal till brings people in contact with highly pathogenic material. The principles of new chnology adapted to local conditions needs to be transferred to China.

The project area will comprise of six remote and poor provinces or autonomous regions: nner Mongolia, Xinjiang, Yunnan, Guangxi, Gansu and Hunan. The project will build on ghly successful work carried out under previous national and inter-regional projects which lso worked in Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang which have led to expansion of the applications low cost technologies.

Description of project

The development objectives of the project are to: (a) introduce on a large scale, an ppropriate, low-cost, technology systems' approach which integrates community esponsibility and management, stressing the role of women as well as compatible nvironmental solutions; and (b) build a national capacity to lead to the application of imilar systems and strategies throughout the country.

The immediate objectives are to: (a) develop sound implementation strategies for low-ost, appropriate technology use including recommendations for a policy framework and nvestment guidelines at the provincial/county level; (b) prepare effective county-level sector nvestment and subproject planning; (c) design and implement four demonstration projects to llustrate the viability of the approach, drill and construct 50 wells in each of four rovinces, train local staff as well as community members as service operators , caretakers nd managers, assist local manufacturers in improved quality of drilling rigs, handpumps and ssociated materials, monitor performance, and prepare recommendations for large-scale pplication within the country and region; (d) strengthen sector institutions, assess nstitutional capacities, develop HRD programmes, and conduct workshops for staff in anning, community organization/management, hygiene, financing and cost-recovery and roject preparation; and (e) improve monitoring and evaluation to ensure long-term ustainability and replicability.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a CTA for 12 work-months (cost-shared with INT/87/013), an engineer r 24 work-months, international (18 work-months), national (78 work-months), consultants nd national experts (48 work-months) in engineering, hydro-geology, drilling, sanitation, nstitutional planning, finance, water quality and health education for investment reparation and capacity building; study tours (12 work-months) for observation of similar erations; long-term training for senior officials in management/capacity building; four illing rigs and 200 handpumps for demonstration, office and computer equipment for rticipating counties and provinces; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	562 000
Training	102 000
Equipment	480 000
Miscellaneous	42 000
Total	1 186 000